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FIRST CLASS MATE CERTIFICATE

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Linda O. Palladino

March 21, 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application Of:

Vivien W. Wong, et al.

USSN:

09/577,468

Filed:

May 24, 2000

For:

USE OF MODIFIED CILIARY NEUROTROPHIC

FACTOR

Examiner:

Not yet known

Group:

Not yet known

March 21, 2001

Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

This paper is submitted in connection with the above-identified application. Prior to examination of the application on the merits, please amend the specification as follows:

In the Specification:

Please amend page 1 of the specification to claim priority as a continuation-in -part of United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/361,693 filed February 27, 1998 which is a continuation-in-part of United States Patent Application Serial No. 08/645,107 filed May 13, 1996, which is a continuation-in-part of 08/308,736 filed September 1999, which issued as Untied States Patent No. 5,846,935 on December 8, 1998, which is a continuation-in-part of United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/959, 284 filed

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